

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INFORMATION PAPER**

SERVICE/AGENCY: U. S. NAVY

SUBJECT: Navy Position on the HASC mark for EA-18G aircraft

DATE: 27 May 2014

REQUEST: Provide the current Department of Navy position on the House mark proposing the procurement of 5 EA-18G aircraft in FY15 and encouraging the use of the FY14 F/A-18E/F Advance Procurement funding (\$75M) to extend the production line to a minimum production rate of 2 aircraft per month.

RESPONSE:

- The Navy appreciates Congress' consideration of the CNO's FY15 Unfunded Priority List. However, Navy opposes the addition of EA-18Gs if they come at the expense of the items in our PB-15 request.
- The PB-15 budget submission reflects Navy's highest priorities within the FY15 funding level provided by the Bipartisan Budget Act. The current total procurement of 138 EA-18G aircraft can source the current Navy mission requirement.
- With the utilization of the \$75M of FY14 F/A-18E/F Advance Procurement (AP) funding redirected to EA-18G Advanced Procurement, the Navy would be able to procure 5 aircraft if they are procured at the most efficient rate. However, use of the FY14 F/A-18E/F AP for EA-18G would require above-threshold reprogramming and would not be adequate to sustain a minimum production rate of 2 aircraft per month.
- Additional funding would be required to extend the period of performance of the FY14 procurement to account for a production rate of 2 aircraft per month without a significant amount of Boeing participation. Our current model estimates approximately \$266M premium to stretch the period of performance out 10 months.
- The CNO requested 22 additional EA-18Gs on his FY15 Unfunded Priority List to augment existing Navy squadrons in the execution of the joint AEA missions and reduce risk in meeting operational demand across several mission areas for multi-aircraft tactics, and the potential increased need for joint AEA.
- As nations expand their use of the electromagnetic spectrum, the ability to perform the AEA mission will become more critical and buying additional EA-18Gs in FY15 reduces risk in our ability to meet future AEA demand.